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Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP66R00638R000100090076-1

CONTROL SYSTEM

26 JUN 1962

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NRO DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

**SUBJECT: Quality Processing and Reproduction of the
Products of Exotic Photographic Reconnaissance**

1. Purpose: To establish a capability for handling present and future processing and reproduction requirements of exotic photographic reconnaissance products.
2. Discussion: The Eastman Kodak Processing Facility, currently processing the products of the U-2, CORONA, and ARCON, is essentially the same as those authorized at the beginning of the U-2 program in 1955 with jury-rigged innovations, procedural and mechanical, to attempt to meet new problems resulting from advanced collection equipment and problems arising from greatly expanded requirements for quantity.
3. We are, however, at a point in time where it is essential to face the question of what does the U.S. Government expect to be the future of exotic photographic reconnaissance and to establish the necessary processing and reproduction capabilities accordingly. The U.S. is by no means at the end of exotic photographic reconnaissance. We believe it essential and urgent to organize the processing and reproduction capabilities to match the advancing state of the art in photographic collection, else the latter is meaningless and the fundamental purpose of such collection, namely, acquisition of information, is frustrated. The history of the last six years has proved the wisdom of depending upon a contract facility whose entire reason for existence is competence in all aspects of photography to be responsible for handling the products of exotic photographic reconnaissance.

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CORONA/ARGON

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TCS-12619-62

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Approved For Release 2001/08/27 : CIA-RDP66R00638R000100090076-1

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4. **Proposal:** In order to meet the increasing U.S. Intelligence Community needs for processing and reproducing the products of exotic photographic reconnaissance, we are programming the following actions:

a. Establish a processing facility incorporating the environment required by today's and future photographic processing needs. This plan will include in its formulation consideration of the use of present U.S. Government facilities at Eastman Kodak in order to insure optimum use of facilities to fulfill overall government needs and to avoid unnecessary duplication.

b. Provide new equipment appropriate to meet today's requirements.

c. Staff this new facility with manpower required to expeditiously process and duplicate.

d. Conduct continuing development as may be necessary to insure successful solution of future problems for continued product improvement.

5. In connection with the foregoing proposal, there is submitted at Tab A an estimate of the funds which will be required for the fiscal year 1963.

6. I believe the above concepts are along the lines we have discussed with reference to insuring that NRO efforts will continue to exploit the most advanced state of the art techniques.

7. Any comments or recommendation prior to implementing these actions would be welcomed.

This document contains information referring to Project **ARGON**

/CORONA/ARGON

15/
HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

Attachment:
Tab A

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Attachments Missing Tab A